

Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resource Commission

ITEM

17

INFORMATION

TOPIC

Publicly Owned Lakes Program - Watershed Selection

The Natural Resource Commission approved the eligibility of seven publicly owned lakes as priority lakes at its June 12, 2008, meeting. Priority publicly owned lakes are established by the Department in accordance with 571 Iowa Administrative Code Chapter 31 which was updated and approved by the Commission on March 13, 2008. The list of seven lakes was advanced to the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship's (IDALS) Division of Soil Conservation which manages and provides funding for the Public Owned Lakes Program. Funds will be made available to private landowners to install approved permanent soil conservation practices in the watersheds above the identified publicly owned lakes.

Funds for the Program come from appropriations to the IDALS and grants are available to private landowners mentioned above to fund 75% of total project costs. Funding for fiscal year 2009 is \$350,000. Interested parties submit applications requesting to be identified as a priority watershed. Twenty-two applications were submitted from 18 Soil and Water Conservation Districts. They include the following:

Lost Grove Lake	Scott
Lake of the Hills	Scott
Brushy Creek Lake	Webster
Silver Lake	Delaware
Three Mile Lake	Union/Adair
Storm Lake	Buena Vista
Blue Lake	Monona
Hawthorn Lake	Mahaska
Roberts Creek Lake	Marion
Littlefield Lake	Audubon
Muskrat Slough	Jones

Central Park Lake	Jones
Meadow Lake	Adair
West Lake	Clarke
Lake Geode	Des Moines/Henry
Little River Lake	Decatur
Lake Meyer	Winneshiek
Badger Creek Lake	Madison
Iowa Great Lakes	Dickinson
Silver Lake	Dickinson/Osceola
Williamson Pond	Lucas
Lakes Morris & Ellis	Lucas

According to the newly revised rules, applications were evaluated on their identification of locations within the watershed that contribute significant sediment to the lake and their plans for the installation of permanent soil conservation practices to eliminate the sources. In accordance with the rules, the Department recommended and the Commission approved for watershed eligibility in fiscal year 2009:

- Hawthorn Lake, Mahaska County
- Littlefield Lake, Audubon County
- Lake Geode, Des Moines & Henry Counties
- Lake Meyer, Winneshiek County
- Badger Creek Lake, Madison County
- Central Park Lake, Jones County
- Meadow Lake, Adair County

These recommendations have been sent to IDALS and the Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Funding will be available on July 1, 2008.

Ken Herring, Administrator
Conservation and Recreation Division
July 10, 2008